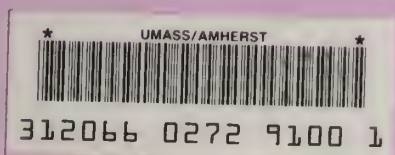


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Maps at the Massachusetts Archives

The Massachusetts Archives is a division of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin.

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Mission

The Massachusetts Archives serves the Commonwealth and its citizens by preserving and making accessible the records documenting government action and by assisting government agencies in managing their permanent records. The Archives provides leadership in preserving historical records and ensuring that those records are known and valued by citizens, students, and scholars. This mission of the Massachusetts Archives is to

- Ensure the preservation and accessibility of the records of the government;
- Provide assistance to government agencies;
- Provide leadership to ensure the preservation and accessibility of Massachusetts's historical heritage; and
- Develop appreciation of the value of historical records.

Introduction

The Massachusetts Archives has a large map collection. The bulk of the collection comprises maps that towns and cities of Massachusetts created under mandates from the General Court and those created or collected by state agencies. Massachusetts Archives maps date from 1492 to today.

This pamphlet lists the major series containing maps at the Massachusetts Archives. The information in this publication was taken from the cataloging records found in the RLIN bibliographic database. Some of the records do not contain specific information about the maps in these collections, instead they focus on the documents and the entirety of the collection. To best serve your research needs, we recommend that you discuss your query with reference staff before beginning your map research.

The entries in this pamphlet are organized chronologically. Entries include the Series Title (Agency name, the department within the agency, and the title of the collection), the year or year span of the records, the agency code and series number, the amount of materials contained in the series, historical information about the series, and information about the records. Following the chronological descriptions of series is an index by Agency Name of the information found in this document.

Come visit our reference staff to discuss what maps you are looking for. Good luck with your research!

Chronological Listing of Collections

♦ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State, Transcripts and documents collected in France, 1492-1815 (bulk 1650-1780)**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 38X

Amount: 12 volumes

Microfilm available in Archives reading room.

Background: The governor was authorized by Resolves 1845, c 3 and Resolves 1846, c 76, to procure original documents or transcripts of them from public offices in France, in order to illustrate the history of the Commonwealth. Benjamin Perley Poore was commissioned to carry out this task, apparently under the direction of the state secretary.

Series Description: This series contains the results of his work.

Subseries: **Historical documents** (10 volumes) contains transcribed, original manuscripts, and printed documents in French, relating to French court policy towards Massachusetts. Letters and reports from officials in New France (i.e. French Canada) reflect military and civil transactions with New England, including several schemes to occupy Boston and surrounding towns. There are also engravings, including portraits, representations of battles, and maps; and watercolor illustrations of French regimental dress.

Subseries: **Maps** (2 volumes) consists of engraved maps, several accompanied by narrative or illustration. Topics include Canada and other areas of North America, including the cities of Boston, Charleston, Detroit, New Orleans, and New York; also the Caribbean, the Gulf of Mexico, Mexico, and South America. Narratives and illustrations include information on tribal names, languages, and customs; and lists and descriptions of indigenous animal and plant life. Languages include French, English, and Latin.

♦ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. Maps and plans, 1638-1986.**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 50

Amount: 3000 maps in 72 volumes and 200 individual maps

Microfilm for some series available in Archives reading room.

This series includes both manuscript and printed maps. Some building plans are included. Ask Reference staff about the arrangement of this collection. Searchable collection database with an index of selected documents and series is available at the Archives.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Ascertain the Boundary Line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Files on the Massachusetts-Rhode Island boundary, 1671-1899 (bulk 1830-1884)**

Call No.: Agency CO2 Series 109X

Amount: 5 document boxes and 1 box

The boundary line between Massachusetts and Rhode Island was a matter of dispute from colonial times to 1883, when agreement was reached on the northern section of the boundary. The eastern portion of the boundary line was settled by a Supreme Court case decision in 1861. The resolution of the dispute involved a series of commissions appointed by the General Court and the governor over a period of one hundred years, and an earlier Supreme Court case initiated by the state of Rhode Island that was dismissed in 1845.

These files were created by the various commissioners and compiled by the state secretary to assist in the resolution of the boundary line dispute. One folder contains original deeds, letters, and other papers from colonial times pertaining to the boundary. Other original papers in this series are correspondence relating to and papers submitted in the Supreme Court cases of 1831 and 1852. Correspondents include counsel, the attorney general, the governor, and the state secretary. In 1845 legislation (Resolves 1845,

c 118) required that early colonial documents relating to the Massachusetts-Rhode Island boundary be copied from the Public Records Office in London; those copies are included here. There are also copies of documents taken from Rhode Island and Massachusetts records. The governor of Massachusetts was requested to procure from the archives of the Supreme Court copies of plans used in the Supreme Court cases (Resolves 1864, c 91). There are reports of actions taken in regard to this resolve and an attested copy of the Supreme Court decree of 1861. There is also a collection of petitions sent to the General Court's Joint Special Committee on the Boundary in 1846 and 1847 relating to the then proposed boundary line and a minority report by a member of the 1844 commission. Printed copies of Massachusetts House and Senate documents reporting the work of the 1844 commission as well as printed reports issued by the state of Rhode Island in 1867 and 1880 are also in the file.

♦ **Massachusetts. Division of Waterways. Maps and plans, 1774-1971 (bulk 1880-1920)**

Call No.: Agency EN3.02 Series 1165X

Amount: ca. 600 items, 161 boxes

The function of the Division of Waterways of the Dept. of Public Works and its predecessors was to oversee, protect, and develop the waterways of Massachusetts.

This series includes the maps and plans that were filed in accordance with MGLA c 91, regulating structures and activities within tidelands and waterways, as well those created or gathered in support of development and improvement projects. Included are topographical maps, survey maps, senatorial district maps, and detailed construction plans, of varying size and medium, including printed, hand drawn, traced, and blueprint.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Ascertain and Establish the Boundary Line between Massachusetts and New Hampshire. Files on the Massachusetts-New Hampshire boundary, 1784-1899 (bulk 1825-1899)**

Call No.: Agency CO4 Series 111X

Amount: 1 document box

In 1825, 1883, and 1885, the General Court authorized the governor of Massachusetts to appoint commissioners who would work with commissioners from New Hampshire to resolve boundary disputes. The 1825 commission was unable to work out a line acceptable to both states and a boundary marked in 1741 remained in effect. The commissioners appointed in 1885 reached agreement on the eastern portion of the boundary in 1888 and on the western portion in 1894. These files were created by the various commissioners and compiled by the state secretary to assist in the resolution of the boundary line dispute.

This series contains correspondence between the governor of Massachusetts and the commissioners, and between the governors of Massachusetts and New Hampshire, as well as correspondence of the state secretary. There are commissioners' reports to the governor of Massachusetts in 1827, to the governor of New Hampshire in 1826, and one written in 1890; also a copy of the boundary agreement made by the commissioners in 1894. Copies of papers dating from colonial times were transcribed from the Public Records Office in London and from early records of the states of New Hampshire and Massachusetts for the reference use of the commissioners.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Ascertain the Boundary Line between Massachusetts and Connecticut. Files on the Massachusetts-Connecticut boundary, 1791-1913 (bulk 1791-1827)**

Call No.: Agency CO5 Series 112X

Amount: 1 document box

Several groups of Massachusetts commissioners worked with their Connecticut counterparts to resolve disputes that surfaced after the Revolutionary War concerning the boundary between the two states. An agreement was reached on the section of the line west of the Connecticut River in 1803 and on the line east

of the Connecticut River in 1826. These files were created by the various commissioners and compiled by the state secretary to assist in the resolution of the boundary line dispute.

This series contains correspondence between the governors of Massachusetts and Connecticut, memoranda relating to work of the commission of 1825, a report issued by that commission, and a proclamation issued by the governor in 1827 that legally defines the boundary. A printed version of a 1913 Connecticut statute that defines the latitude and longitude measurements of the boundary is also included with these files. This bill was evidently passed in conjunction with similar Massachusetts legislation (St 1908, c 192) following an examination and remarking of boundary monuments by the Topographical Survey Commission.

♦ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. Town plans--1794, 1794-1795.**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 47X

Amount: 16 volumes

Microfilm available in Archives reading room.

In 1794 pursuant of Resolves 1794, May Session, c 101 each town in Massachusetts (including those in the five eastern counties now part of Maine) were mandated to make a town plan (map) to be used in the creation of a state map. The town plans were to be based on surveys no more than seven years old and drawn on a scale of 200 rods to the inch. They were to include rivers, county roads, bridges, courthouses, places of public worship, and distances of the town center to the county shire town and to Boston. Subsequently, Osgood Carleton completed a map of Massachusetts proper and one of the District of Maine from these plans and printed in 1802.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Quiet Settlers on the Waldo Claim. Certificates of agreement for quieting settlers, 1797-1800.**

Call No.: Agency EA5 Series 83X

Amount: 2 volumes

Resolves 1796, Jan 1797 Sess, c 60 named three commissioners to fix terms of awards from Henry Knox, principal proprietor, to settlers without title in the Waldo Patent, District of Maine.

This series contains legal documents evidencing completion of the process. Information includes name of settler, date moved onto land, town where land located, and whether property had been transferred to another person. Awards are certificates signed by commissioners setting terms of land sale from proprietor to settler. Information includes name of settler, exact description of 100-acre lot awarded, name of surveyor, amount of money owed to proprietor, and date of payment. Surveyor field notes are descriptions of lots surveyed by James Malcom, John Harkness, and Robert Huston, including actual boundaries and condition of land. Surveyor field notes include lot plans indexed as part of Massachusetts, including in VOLUME 1 lots in Thomaston, Cushing, Warren, New Canaan Plantation, Duck Trap, Camden, Northport, and Islesborough on Long Island. Vol. 2 includes lots in Mt. Ephraim in Prospect, Marsh River in Prospect, and land between Marsh River and Penobscot River.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Quiet Settlers on the Kennebec Purchase. Certificates of agreement for quieting settlers, 1802-1804.**

Call No.: Agency EA6 Series 84X

Amount: 5 volumes

Microfilm of maps only included with series.

The Commission to Quiet Settlers on the Kennebeck Purchase was established by the General Court in 1802 to resolve disputed land claims between squatting settlers and the proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase. Gubernatorially-appointed commissioners reviewed the claims submitted to them and rendered determinations governing each case.

This record is the legal agreement negotiated by the commissioners between the settlers and the agent of the proprietors.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Quiet Settlers in Waldoborough. Certificates of agreement for quieting settlers, 1803-1804.**

Call No.: Agency EA13 Series 86X

Amount: 1 volume

Resolves 1802, c 123 provided that commissioners be designated by the governor to fix terms of awards from Henry Knox, principal proprietor, to settlers without title in Waldoborough, Waldo Patent, District of Maine.

This series contains legal documents evidencing completion of the process. Awards are certificates signed by commissioners setting terms of land sale from proprietor to settler. Information includes name of settler, exact description of land (usually 100-acre lot) awarded, name of surveyor, amount of money owed to proprietor, and date of payment. Surveyor field notes are descriptions of lots surveyed by John Harkness and Ephraim Rolings. Maps and plans (50) Also included are lot plans and a few references (documents submitted to commissioners by settler and proprietor, establishing settler's claim), copy of enabling resolve, petition to the governor by settlers mandated by the resolve, and transmittal letter for these documents from the state secretary to the commissioners.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners to Quiet Settlers on the Pejepscot Claim. Report of the commissioners, 1804.**

Call No.: Agency EA7 Series 85X

Amount: Partial volume

Partial microfilm reel.

Pursuant to Resolves 1798, c 64 and Resolves 1800, c 143, commissioners were appointed by the governor in 1803 to handle claims of settlers on undivided lands and lands held by proprietors of the Pejepscot Claim in the District of Maine.

This series consists of a report of the commissioners' work listing settlers on lands awarded to the claim's proprietors by the referees. The report covers land along the Adroscoggin River in the Maine towns of Leeds, Kennebec (now Manchester), Greene, Lewiston, Durham, and Pejepscot (now Auburn), Little River Plantation (now part of Lisbon), and the gore between the west and southwest line. Information includes the name of settler, location of land, number of acres held, and value of property. The agent for the proprietors ignored the report and refused to accept provisions relating to settlers on previously divided lands. The report was probably used by the Supreme Judicial Court in its final determination of the case in 1813.

♦ **Massachusetts. Commissioners for Determining Rights of Claimants to Lands in Lincoln County. Administrative files, 1810-1813 (bulk 1812-1813)**

Call No.: Agency EA10 Series 91X

Amount: 2 document boxes

Pursuant to Resolves 1811, c 34 Commissioners were appointed to review surrendered claims and determine compensatory grants to nonresident proprietors in Lincoln County, District of Maine. The Commissioners met in late 1811 and 1812 to receive testimony of proprietors and town settlers, submission, and deeds of release.

This series includes the administrative files created in these activities, including working papers, schedules of documents submitted by attorneys, and receipts for documents received. Claims of the Commonwealth include position of the Commonwealth regarding Lincoln County land titles as outlined by Attorney General Perez Morton. Claims of nonresident proprietors include copies of wills and

deeds, genealogies, title abstracts, and other papers to substantiate rights to lands under Brown, Tappan, Drowne, Brown/Pierce and Pemaquid claims. Claims of settlers prove title to contested lands and show length of residency, including lists of settlers in the towns of Palermo, Putnam, and Jefferson; depositions; and extracts of Massachusetts public records relating to purchase of Indian lands.

◆ **Massachusetts. Commissioners Appointed to Give Deeds to Settlers in Lincoln County. Returns of deeds given, 1815-1819.**

Call No.: Agency EA11 Series 93X

Amount: Partial volume

Partial microfilm reel.

Pursuant to Resolves 1812, c 183 Commissioners were appointed to examine land claims and give deeds from the Commonwealth to town settlers in Lincoln County, District of Maine.

These schedules of deeds were submitted to the Land Office in 1816, 1817, and 1819, accompanied by town surveys for lands deeded; at the same time reports were made to the General Court. Schedules for each town list settlers not paying for their lands, deeds given at Dec. 1816 meetings, deeds given before the 1817 report, and deeds given in 1817 and 1818. Information includes name of settler, lot location, acreage, price, and amount paid. Towns included Boothbay, Bristol, Edgecomb, Jefferson, Newcastle, Nobleborough, and Waldoborough.

◆ **Thayer, Sylvanus, 1785-1872. Maps of Boston Harbor, 1820.**

Call No.: PR8 Series P032X

Amount: 2 manuscript maps in 9 pieces

Sylvanus Thayer became a 2nd Lieutenant in the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1808. He served as superintendent of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, 1817-1833, and was then appointed U. S. Army engineer in charge of construction of fortifications at the entrance to Boston Harbor and of improvements to New England harbors. He retired from the Army in 1863 with the rank of brigadier-general. He established the Thayer School of Engineering at Dartmouth College in 1867 and provided a fund for a public library in Braintree, Massachusetts, his residence.

This collection includes two topographical ink maps showing (1) Peddock's Island (2) Charlestown Neck and Noddle's Island. Photographic copies are available at the Braintree Historical Society, Braintree, MA 02184.

◆ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. Town plans--1830, 1830.**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 1554X

Amount: 16 volumes

Microfilm available in Archives reading room.

In 1829 pursuant of Resolves 1829, c 50 each town in Massachusetts was mandated to make a town map to be used in the creation of a more accurate state map. The town plans were to be based on surveys no more than five years old. The plans were to be drawn on a scale of 100 rods to the inch and were to include rivers, waterways, public and private roads, places of public worship, courthouses, other public buildings, distance from town center to county shire town and to Boston, bridges and ferries, falls, ponds, shores, harbors, islands, mountains and hills, mills, factories, mines, iron works, meadows, and woodlands.

◆ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. Corrections to county maps, 1846-1849.**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 1046X

Amount: 1 document box

Pursuant to St 1846, c 241, the state secretary had county maps prepared from the state map of Massachusetts and sent to the county commissioners. Commissioners were to mark changes in boundaries of towns, new roads, railroads, and canals, and return altered maps yearly to the state secretary, who would then have alterations made to the state map. Series consists of textual replies from the county commissioners to the state secretary.

♦ **Massachusetts. Governor. Executive department letters, 1853-1893.**

Call No.: Agency GO1 Series 567X

Amount: Subseries (1): 371 volume, Subseries (2): 139 volume in 57 doc. box, Subseries (3): 1 volume in 1 doc. box.

The governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as chief executive of the state, is responsible for administration of the executive departments and agencies; approval or rejection of all legislative enactments; preparation of the state budget; appointment of state officials; and coordination of affairs among federal government, state, and cities and towns. The governor also serves as commander-in-chief of the state military.

Executive department letters consist of incoming correspondence addressed to the governor relating to the administration of state government, chiefly during the terms of John Andrew (1861-1866). This series also includes Civil War recruiting posters and other broadsides, brochures, clippings, photographs, and maps.

♦ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Environmental Management. Plan of picnic grounds at Concord, 1880.**

Call No.: Agency EN6 Series 1337X

Amount: 1 leaf (1 folder)

The Dept. of Environmental Management has general care and oversight of the natural resources of the Commonwealth and adjacent waters.

This series was created to map planned recreational facilities in the Walden Pond area.

♦ **Massachusetts. Office of the Secretary of State. Notices of changes of town boundaries, 1893-1997.**

Call No.: Agency SC1 Series 131

Amount: 2 document boxes

Pursuant to MGLA c 42, s 10, county commissioners are authorized to grant permission for removing, covering up, or obliterating boundary markers so long as they make provision for preserving the exact location of the original boundary or mark, by proper witness marks, or other designation and measurement. Full description and designation of such witness marks and monuments are recorded in the office of the town clerk of the contiguous towns and copies transmitted to the state secretary. Notices of changes of town boundaries are the copies transmitted to the secretary, bearing the signatures of county commissioners.

Files may include map and letter of transmittal. Some files relate to state boundary lines.

♦ **Massachusetts. Division of Waterways. Computations of boundary lines, 1895-1940.**

Call No.: Agency EN3.02 Series 671X

Amount: 1 record center carton

In 1885 the Topographical Survey Commission, in conjunction with the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, sent out field teams to establish accurate Massachusetts town boundaries, and eventually interstate boundaries. These computations of boundary lines are based on data recorded by survey teams for the commission. In 1901 the Board of Harbor and Land Commissioners took over the survey and completed it in 1914. Several different agencies took over the responsibility for state surveying: the Commission on Waterways and Public Lands, in 1916; the Division of Waterways and Public Lands of the Department of Public Works, in 1919; the Department of Public Works as a whole, in 1927; and the department's Division of Waterways, in 1938.

This series includes miscellaneous folders spanning a period of forty years are included. Some include correspondence addressed to engineer William C. Hawley and may be a small part of a larger series. Measurements are on forms that record azimuth and back azimuth and computations of latitude, longitude, and distances. Some published topographical maps with triangulation stations marked in by hand are in front of the carton.

◆ **Massachusetts. Metropolitan District Commission. Division of Parks Engineering. Maps and plans, 1895-1968.**

Call No.: Agency EN4.04 Series 622

Amount: 301 items.

In 1919 the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) was established. The MDC was a successor to the Metropolitan Park Commission (MPC) and the Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board. The newly formed MDC Division of Parks Engineering continued the functions of the Engineering Dept. of the MPC. This Division was responsible for planning, engineering, and supervising construction of parkways, bridges, locks, rinks, and other recreational and park facilities under the commission's jurisdiction.

Maps and plans consist of topographical maps acquired or drawn by engineers and detailed construction and site plans created by engineers or architects engaged by the commissions, and were used to plan and carry out construction projects. Information includes title, date, scale, name of person responsible for map, map or plan number, and accession number. In addition, maps and plans created by department engineers list engineers calculation notebook and field notebook number containing computations and measurements serving as a basis for the map or plan. Maps and plans are for a variety of construction projects, including bridges, roadways, and recreational facilities.

◆ **Massachusetts. Committee on Charles River Dam. Diversion of Boston sewage files, 1902-1903.**

Call No.: Agency EN4.15 Series 1805X

Amount: 1 document box

The Committee on the Charles River Dam was established to consider the feasibility and desirability of constructing and maintaining a dam across the Charles River between Boston and Cambridge. Before proceeding with dam construction the Committee considered the diversion of Boston sewage from the Charles River Basin above the site of a dam.

Series was created to investigate alternative methods of diversion. Notes and computations relate to areas served by Boston sewage system, sewage and rainwater volume, beaches and tide levels, and costs for improved sewage disposal; there is also related correspondence between consulting engineers to the committee and City of Boston engineers. Finished tables, maps, and blueprints are accompanied by a report to the committee on sewage diversion by a City of Boston engineer.

◆ **Massachusetts. Adjutant General's Office. Gettysburg maps, 1904.**

Call No.: Agency PS1 Series 725X

Amount: 9 maps (1 folder)

The adjutant general of the Commonwealth, as executive administrator of the state's Military Establishment, came to be responsible for preserving information about past military episodes and service relating to Massachusetts.

This series of maps was created to show the positions occupied by Union and Confederate forces on each of the three days of the Gettysburg battle. Consisting of nine sheets portraying the battle at various stages of each day, the maps were drawn in pencil and pen and signed by Frederick W. Cross, military archivist in the Adjutant General's Office. Topographic and cartographic features are detailed in linear schematics. Each map contains annotations identifying troops, positions, and times of day.

♦ **Massachusetts. Valley Forge Military Monument Commission. Administrative files, 1910-1912 .**

Call No.: Agency CO9 Series 818X

Amount: 1 document box

The administrative files of the Valley Forge Military Monument Commission document its activity in organizing a memorial to Massachusetts Revolutionary War heroes who served at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania, in 1777-1778.

The files include the preliminary report of the chairman to Governor Draper containing a historical compilation of the records and actions of the Massachusetts regiments serving under General George Washington at Valley Forge, including short biographies of all field officers and recommendations for the design of the military monument to be dedicated to the brigades of generals John Glover, Ebenezer Learned, and John Paterson. The files also include facsimiles of maps of the encampment; photographs of the memorial site; etchings of Revolutionary leaders, photographs of Massachusetts memorials to these leaders and of memorials already erected at Valley Forge to the three Massachusetts brigades; correspondence from the commission (1910-1911) concerning the site selection, the acceptance of the design, and the construction of the monument; a list of persons attending the dedication; and clippings about the dedication from Pennsylvania newspapers.

♦ **Massachusetts Port Authority. Maps, aerials, photos, plans (planning/planning scheduled item), 1911-1948 (bulk 1911-1919)**

Call No.: Agency TC6 Series 1758

Amount: Subseries (a) 7 volume in 7 boxes, Subseries (b) 3 boxes and 2 doc. boxes

The Massachusetts Port Authority (Massport) is the state agency responsible for operation and maintenance of commercial aviation, maritime, and certain bridge facilities in and around the Port of Boston. The planning unit formulates plans for development and modification of Massport facilities, including submitting such plans and related feasibility studies to the Massport executive board for action. This Series consists of plans and views of related urban projects created as reference materials to support these activities, and, if approved, to serve as basis for architectural and engineering drawings by the engineering division.

Files in general (including those in agency, from ca. 1880) contain aerial and other photographs, overlays and topographic and hydrogeographic information, preliminary plans, and maps. Files at Archives relate specifically to construction and reinforcement of Commonwealth Pier Five, associated viaduct and steam plant, Fish Pier, and Dry Dock at South Boston Flats, chiefly 1911-1919.

♦ **Massachusetts. Attorney General's Office. Files relating to the taking of land for enlargement of the State House, 1915-1926 (bulk 1915-1918)**

Call No.: Agency AG1 Series 1649X

Amount: 1 document box

St 1915, c 256 and St 1916, c 250 authorized the Commonwealth to purchase or take land abutting the State House to allow completion of east and west wing additions.

This series was created by the office of the attorney general as the legal representative of the Commonwealth in the transactions. Files contain correspondence, copies of deeds and other legal documents, receipts, reports, and a map relating to valuation and purchase of and compensation for land takings.

♦ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Public Works. State aid maps, 1920-1974.**

Call No.: Agency TC4 Series 1160X

Amount: 3 record center cartons

The Dept. of Public Works and its successor from 1992, the Massachusetts Highway Department, have been responsible for development and maintenance of all state highways and bridges in the Commonwealth. The DPW also directs the use of the state Highway Fund to assist counties and municipalities in construction and maintenance of county and town roads.

This collection includes state aid maps that were annotated by the department's chief engineer to record such projects. U.S. Geological Survey maps include dates, route numbers, and remarks on construction.

♦ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Environmental Management. Map of Metropolitan District, 1933.**

Call No.: Agency EN6 Series 1822X

Amount: 1 roll.

The Dept. of Environmental Management has general care and oversight of the natural resources of the Commonwealth and adjacent waters.

This series shows population trends in the Metropolitan District (Boston and surrounding communities) Information for each municipality includes area in square miles for 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930, population, population density per square mile, and index to population growth (1900=100).

♦ **Massachusetts. State Planning Board. Land study maps, 1936-1943 (bulk 1937)**

Call No.: Agency CD8 Series 683X

Amount: ca. 1600 maps in 7 map drawers

The State Planning Board was established in 1935 to be responsible for a physical development master plan for the Commonwealth. In fulfilling this function it had these municipal maps prepared by the federal Works Progress Administration (W. P. A. project no. 13684)

Series includes maps for (1) topography, (2) roads and bridges, (3) land utilization, (4) soil classification, and (5) roads and waterways for each municipality.

♦ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Public Works. Public hearing files, 1937-1983.**

Call No.: Agency TC4 Series 1788

Amount: 12 record center cartons

The Dept. of Public Works and its successor from 1992, the Massachusetts Highway Department, have been responsible for development and maintenance of all state highways and bridges. The department gives public notice of and holds hearings of all parties interested before laying out a state highway or a state highway railroad crossing. This series includes records of these hearings.

Files contain official hearing notices, transmittal correspondence to municipal officials and newspapers publishing notices, and related departmental memorandums; minutes (stenographic reports) of hearings; related correspondence from citizens and business firms; also photographs, maps, blueprints, and news clippings.

♦ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Public Works. Report of 1938 flood and hurricane, [1939].**

Call No.: Agency TC4 Series 1297X

Amount: 2 volumes in 1 document box

The Dept. of Public Works and its successor from 1992, the Massachusetts Highway Department, have been responsible for development and maintenance of all state highways and bridges in the Commonwealth. Following the flood of 1936 and the hurricane of 1938, the department sponsored surveys of high-water data by the Massachusetts Geodetic Survey to assist in assessing damage to these structures.

Series consists of two mimeographed reports created after the 1938 survey (Mass. WPA Project no. 16565): (1) High water data: floods of March 1936 and September 1938 in Massachusetts--with river

descriptions including location/bridge site and high water measurements in 1936 and 1938; flood profile charts give data in graphic form (2) Storm-tide hurricane of September 1938 in Massachusetts-- with statistical tables showing relation of storm tide height to tidal plains and data at tidal bench marks. Tidal storm data charts give data in graphic form with accompanying maps.

◆ **Mystic River Bridge Authority, Land taking files, 1948-1949.**

Call No.: Agency TC9 Series 1948X

Amount: 8 record center cartons and 2 document boxes

Microfiche is available for use.

The Mystic River Bridge Authority was responsible for construction, maintenance, and operation of the Mystic River (now Tobin) Bridge between Boston and Chelsea, Massachusetts until 1959 when it was superseded by the Massachusetts Port Authority. This series includes information about the acquisition of real estate by purchase or eminent domain.

Files are identified by parcel number and owner name and include notes; property photographs; blueprints of parcel and structures; title report; appraisal; deed, probate, and mortgage information; correspondence among owners, attorneys, and authority; notice of land taking; agreement on damages; and other related materials. Properties are located in Boston (Charlestown district) and Chelsea.

◆ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Public Works. Public Information Office. Boston central artery slide presentation, 1949-1955.**

Call No.: Agency TC4.03 Series 630X

Amount: 52 slides

The Dept. of Public Works and its successor from 1992, the Massachusetts Highway Dept., have been responsible for development and maintenance of all state highways and bridges in the Commonwealth. The departmental public information/affairs unit provides photographs for departmental public relations.

This series was created to assist in the planning and public relations relating to construction of Boston central artery including the John F. Fitzgerald Expressway. Files consist of black and white lantern slides. Images include maps, graphs, charts, structural and construction plans, and cartoons.

◆ **Massachusetts. Dept. of Natural Resources. Report on geology of Massachusetts, 1965.**

Call No.: Agency EN10 Series 2004

Amount: 1 volume

The Department of Natural Resources was created in 1953 when it replaced the Dept. of Conservation. In 1975 the department was abolished with its constituent parts distributed among agencies of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs. The Dept. of Natural Resources was mandated to exercise general care and oversight of natural resources in the Commonwealth.

This series is a report to explore the relationship of geology to problems of state water supply, land use, and industry, notably including the extraction of sand/gravel, stone, and clay, especially as related to construction. Recommendations in the report include information on mineral resources and their extraction, rehabilitation of extraction sites and zoning, and establishment of a state geological survey and appointment of a state geologist. Subsequently St. 1968, c 736 established the Division of Mineral Resources within the Dept. of Natural Resources and the office of State Geologist in the Dept. of Public Works. Document was prepared per contract with the department by Robert M. August, and submitted in Aug. 1965 under *A Report Regarding Questions of a Geologic Nature in Massachusetts*.

Includes tables, figures, charts, and maps.

◆ **Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Office. Shoreline change maps, 1985-1987.**

Call No.: Agency EN7 Series 883X

Amount: 236 maps in 5 folders

Since 1978, and with direct legislative authorization since 1983, the Coastal Zone Management Office within the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs has administered the interagency Massachusetts Coastal Zone Management Program, which was established under the auspices of the federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, PL 92-583. The office reviews all activities directly affecting the coastal zone that require federal permits, to ensure that these are in compliance with approved state environmental management. It also reviews coastal-zone related projects requiring state or local permits; works with other state agencies to improve regulatory mechanisms to protect coastal resources and to set coastal management policies and priorities; and supports coastal-related scientific studies, mapping products, and citizen participation.

This series was created to determine changes in shoreline configuration from the 1840s to present, using conditions in 1978 as a basis for comparison. Maps include site location, present and previous coastal patterns, major roads, boundaries, and state plane coordinates.

♦ **Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. Report on geology of the Wachusett Reservoir area, 1992.**

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Responsibility for water delivery and sewer systems in the Boston metropolitan area has rested successively with the Metropolitan Water Board (1895-1901), Board of Metropolitan Sewerage Commissioners (1889-1901), Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board (1901-1919), Water and Sewerage Divisions, Metropolitan District Commission (1919-1985), and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (since 1985). The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) provides wholesale water and sewer services to Boston and sixty other communities and rehabilitates and reconstructs area water supply and sewage treatment facilities to preserve public health and protect natural resources.

As part of the responsibility of its Waterworks Division to plan, design, and manage construction of the authority's waterworks, a study was conducted to assess geological conditions of the Wachusett Reservoir area in central Massachusetts. Report includes maps and charts.

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Glossary of Terms

Document box- A document box is an archival safe box 0.35 cubic feet large.

Dept.- Abbreviation for department used by the Massachusetts Archives.

Records center cartons- A records center carton is an archival safe box 1.25 cubic feet large.

Volume- A bound group of records. Volume sizes vary.

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From the west:

Rte I-90/Mass Pike to I-93 South. Follow signs for UMass Boston and JFK Library.

From the south:

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Take the MBTA Red Line to JFK/UMass station; there are two shuttle buses available in the parking lot. Bus #2 runs every 20 minutes and makes a direct stop at the Archives building (the Commonwealth Museum is located there) and the JFK Library. Bus #1 runs every five minutes; get off at the UMass/Boston Harbor Campus administration building stop and walk to the Archives building, just across the parking lot from the JFK Library.

The Massachusetts Archives is a division of the Office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, William Francis Galvin.